

## ABSTRACT

### METHODS FOR SCREENING INSECTICIDES

5       The present invention relates to methods of screening for potential insecticidal agents using genes encoding proteins that regulate xenobiotic detoxification in insects. In particular the invention relates to methods of using insect nuclear hormone receptor genes, in particular *dhr96* or homologues thereof and/or their promoters. Such methods employ *inter alia* transgenic cells and/or transgenic whole organisms in which one or  
10      more nuclear hormone receptor gene is deleted or under-expressed.